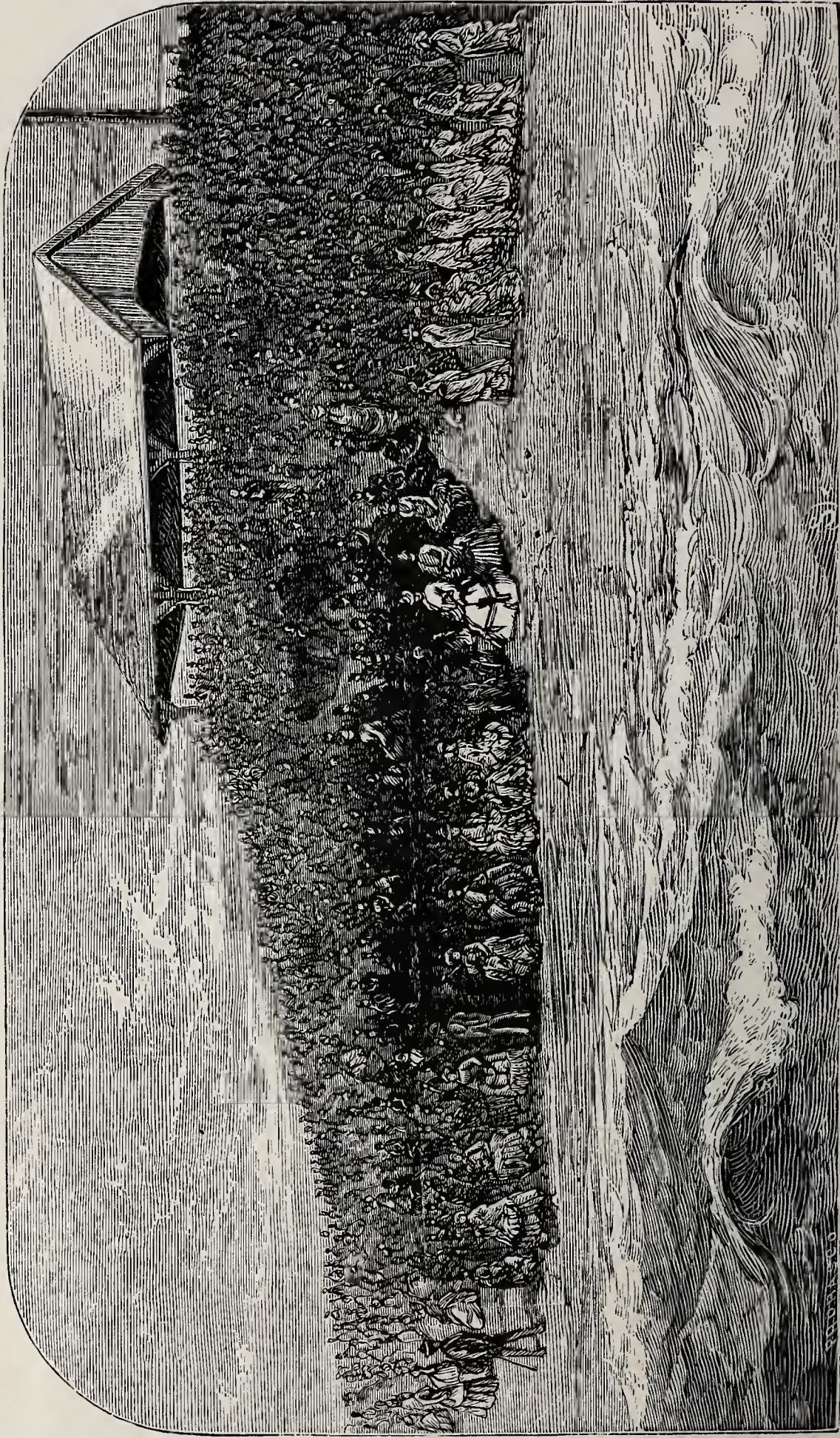




SURF MEETING AT OCEAN GROVE, N. J.

Beside the Sea the wondering people stood,
Or sat, or bowed, devotion's earnest throng;
The spirit, lost in worship's attitude,
Mingled its praises with the billow's song.

O widening sea! O ever heaving flood!
Here on thy margin, where the surges roar,
Thy people rise to Thee. O blessed God,
They weep, they worship, triumph and adore.—E. H. S.

23

WORSHIP BY THE SEA.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PRESIDENT

OF

Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.



“In the beginning, God,” at Ocean Grove,
Was humbly sought, and He did so appear,
That our poor hearts were melted by his love,
And his sweet spirit filled each worshipper;
And so, for aye, upon this holy ground,
The lifted cross shall show atoning blood,
And in these shades where sea-songs ceaseless sound,
Unnumbered souls shall find their way to God.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1877.

*PRESS OF
NATIONAL BUREAU OF ENGRAVING,
No. 435 CHESTNUT STREET,
PHILADELPHIA,*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association.

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REV. A. E. BALLARD, *Vice President*, Bordentown, N. J.

GEORGE W. EVANS, Esq., *Secretary*, Philadelphia, Pa.

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REV. H. B. BEEGLE, *Superintendent*,

Ocean Grove, Monmouth co., N. J.

NAMES OF THE MEMBERS
OF
Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association.

REV. E. H. STOKES, D.D., New Jersey.
REV. R. V. LAWRENCE,* New Jersey.
REV. GEO. HUGHES, New Jersey.
REV. W. B. OSBORN, India.
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REV. WM. FRANKLIN, New Jersey.
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REV. HENRY M. BROWN,† New Jersey.
ENOCH HANTHORN, Esq.,† New Jersey.
JOSEPH MCPHERSON, Esq.,† New Jersey.

*Deceased.

†Elected this year.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

President of Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association.

OCTOBER 9TH, 1877.

To the Members of the Association:

DEAR BRETHREN—

This is our Eighth Annual Assemblage. We are met to review the past, to examine the present, and, as far as may be, to anticipate the future. In so doing we shall need special endowments of that wisdom which comes from above, and the fear and favor of Him without whom all human enterprises are vain.

It is a matter of thanksgiving, that, in the past, God's blessing has not been withheld, and we have the fullest confidence, if we are faithful, that its bestowment in the largest measure will continue to be realized. For this we continuously and devoutly pray.

At these Annual Meetings we are wont to grasp warm hands, and to greet familiar faces. We have learned, as we have here labored to promote God's cause, to love each other as we never should but for these mutual toils. We are older, by eight years, than when we commenced this work. With some there are more grey hairs and less elasticity of step. We are nearer the eternal rest than when this enterprize was organized. Some of our number have already reached the land of the good. Cookman, Lawrence, Franklin; and we have now to add that

since our last Annual Meeting, the saintly John H. Stockton has gone up to be forever with the Lord. We shall miss his Christly smile, his holy songs, and his cheerful words. He was an efficient helper in our Ocean Grove work. He did all that his feeble health allowed, and gladly would have accomplished more. But the Master has sounded in his ears the blessed "well done," and he has joined the redeemed and blood-washed of whom he so often triumphantly sung. Dear brethren,—

" May we triumph so
When all our warfare's past,
And, dying, find our latest foe
Under our feet at last."

A well-executed picture of him is found upon the walls of our Association rooms, side-by-side with his departed compeers.

It is proper to add that one of our number, the pioneer in this enterprise, Rev. W. B. Osborn, three days ago left this country for India, as a missionary of the cross. Our prayers follow him, that he may be a blessing to the people of that benighted country.

The year just closed has been one of enlarged responsibility. This is not surprising, for each year our enterprise expands, and visitors so multiply that the burthen of management must, in the nature of things, increase. But, while we say this, we think we are also justified in saying that this has been a year of enlarged success. I am aware that a similar remark is made in each Annual Report. But if truth will not enable us to say this, then each year there must be a comparative failure, for each year the field of our opportunity is enlarged.

The Executive Committee, to which, as a matter of necessity, important business is always referred at our Annual Meeting, has held twelve sessions during the year, for the consideration and execution of its work. At these meetings there is generally an attendance of all the members, though often at considerable personal sacrifice. Frequently, too, the business submitted is of the most pressing character, requiring the largest endowments of wisdom: and often, after exercising the united and best judgment of the body, some particular want failing to be met, censure comes, when only the public good was sought. Nevertheless, the Committee has persevered in its work, always without charge to the Association, except for traveling expenses—keeping an eye single to great fundamental principles, and willing to wait for its rewards to the great and final day.



HAMILTON COTTAGE.

Cor. Central and Main avenues.

I now call your attention to the *material accomplishments of the year*.

It is important always to keep in mind, in connection with the work of the year, that there are public improvements wrought by the Association, in which we are more particularly concerned, and those of a private character, in which we, with all others, are likewise interested. It should also be remembered that any statement of the work of a whole year, however particular and definite, fails to reach a thousand things—each of which involves time and money, and cannot be dispensed with in an enterprise like this.

About the first work engaged in, after the last Annual Meeting, was the construction of cisterns for holding water in case of fire. Two were built, one at the corner of Pitman and Beach avenues, and one at the corner of Surf and Beach avenues, at a cost of \$108.50 each. In proceeding with the others, the workmen struck water before a sufficient depth for large cisterns had been reached. It was then determined in such cases to make *wells* as cheaper and better adapted to our wants. Four

were thus dug—one near the New Tabernacle ; one corner of Main and New Jersey avenues ; one corner of Heck and New York avenues ; and one corner of Embury and Beach avenues—at a cost of \$56.50 each. Happily, thus far we have had no cause to use them for the purpose of extinguishing fire.

During part of the winter our workmen were engaged in building forty additional portable kitchens, for use in connection with our tents—all of which were in demand during the summer season.

A large surf boat, 23 feet long, with 7 feet beam, called “THE OCEAN GROVE,” was built during the winter by our men, at a cost of \$53, and is worth at least \$90. This boat was launched on the 5th of September, and is to be used by our men in case of wreck upon our shores.



With the opening spring we commenced the erection of the TABERNACLE, to take the place of the large canvas tent heretofore in use. It was originally designed simply to erect a frame with permanent roof, and use curtains for the sides, as a protection from sun and rain. As the work progressed, however, it was thought well to make a permanent enclosure, as being the best and cheapest in the end. The building, as completed,

partly by contract and partly by our own workmen, 60 by 80 feet, outside posts 14 feet, and center posts 16 feet high, with cupola, cost, including 32 new seats, 5 reflectors, gas fittings, grading, cement floor, and lettering, \$2,362.85, and is capable of accommodating, with the use of camp chairs, about 1,000 persons.

The next work of magnitude was the erection of flood gates, flume and dam at the foot of Fletcher lake. The old gates and dam were broken away by the winter storms, and as there would be considerable expense involved in their repair, and as they were not in the proper place, it was thought advisable to change the location, and, for utility and appearance, place them nearer to the sea. This has been done, and gates, flume and dam so constructed that it is believed their power of resistance will be equal to all emergencies, at a cost, including a vast amount of digging by our own men, of \$2,400—a sum larger, by several hundred dollars, than it would have been but for a combination of circumstances over which, at the time, we had no control. It is proper to mention, in this connection, that upon an examination of our ground at the foot of Fletcher lake, for the erection of bath houses, it was found that our lines ran too far north to allow sufficient room, without obstructing the view down Broadway, and also to find an outlet for the waters of the lake, unless we encroached upon lands owned by James A. Bradley. Upon an explanation of the situation to him, he at once agreed to donate to us land for an outlet to the lake, south of the bath-houses, 120 feet broad at the base, and 350 feet deep, running westward to a wedge, while we were at the entire expense of gates, flume and dam.

The need of a plank walk and more light by night, along the ocean front, has been one of the felt needs at Ocean Grove for several years. To meet this demand a footway was laid in July last, just beyond the reach of the surf, 2,835 feet long, and 6 feet wide, reaching from lake to lake, with a line of 21 lamps, which nicely light the beach and aid in preserving order thereon. In the expense of this work we were liberally aided by the very generous donations of Mr. Joseph Ross, lessee of the bathing privileges at Wesley lake, and Mr. T. W. Lillagore, lessee of the same at Fletcher lake. Both these gentlemen have our thanks, for while the construction of the walk materially aided them, their generous contributions materially aided us. No improvement made at this place has met with more general approval, or been more thoroughly used and enjoyed.



BATHING SCENE,
Foot of Wesley Lake.

It will be proper to state, in this connection, that the adjustment of the bathing question, after the expiration of the lease of Mr. W. T. Street, was one that gave the Executive Committee a great amount of solicitude and care. The fact that Mr. Street owned the bath-houses, and the Association owned the land, increased the complications. The easiest solution seemed to be for the Association to purchase the buildings erected by Mr. Street, including the use of the life-lines all along our coast, for which he held the patent, for the full term to which his patent extends. This, after much deliberation and consultation, was finally consummated. These were afterwards leased to Geo. W. Evans, together with the bathing privilege for one year, though he afterwards transferred the privilege, with all its financial interest, with the consent of the Executive Committee, to Jos. Ross, the Committee holding Mr. Evans responsible for the manner in which the business should be conducted. I think there has been very general satisfaction at that point.

Mr. T. W. Lillagore has a lease on the grounds and for the privilege of conducting the bathing business at the foot of Fletcher lake for a pe-

riod of five years. This is a new enterprise, and as the lessee had expended considerable money in the erection of buildings, much interest was felt by himself and friends as to ultimate results. I think, however, that the sequel, thus far, has been such as to inspire hope that finally Fletcher lake will secure a sufficient amount of public favor to make it a success. The style of buildings and the manner in which the business has been conducted, meets, I think, with general approval.

The small store-house next to the large one owned by the Association, and kept, during the past year, by Geo. W. Martin, belonged to Mr. Jemison. In closing up his business here he desired to dispose of this property, and the Executive Committee finally concluded to purchase it, with the two little buildings at its side. These and the large Association store adjoining, have been leased to Mr. Martin—the first for three years, and the latter for one year. Mr. Martin has shown himself gentlemanly and obliging, and while the business has been large, and, during two or three months, pressing, yet its general management has been satisfactory.

When Mr. Jemison closed his business he had considerable furniture on hand, such as chairs, tables, bedsteads, mattresses, wash-stands, &c., articles always in demand by our summer population, which he desired to sell. The Executive Committee bought this, also, and its rental during the past season has paid a good interest on the investment.

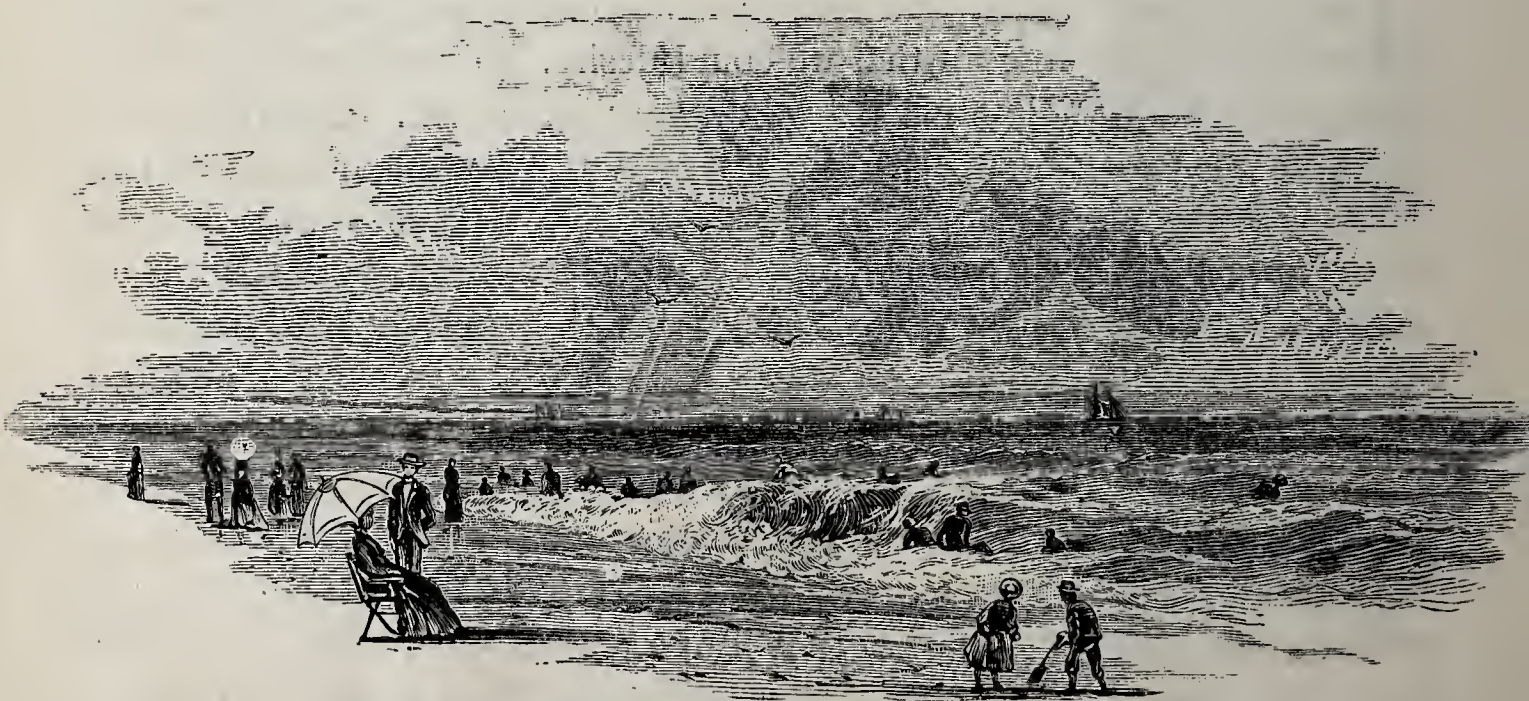
In conducting our meetings through the summer, the congregations so increased that numbers had to stand at almost every service. Fifty new settees, 13 feet long, were therefore added, giving us now sitting capacity in the auditorium for from 2,500 to 3,000 people; yet this is found to be insufficient, and seats must still be multiplied for another year.

Your attention was last year called to the condition of our avenues and side-walks, as not being all that we could desire. There has been some improvement in this direction during the year just closed. Central avenue has been extended, this year, from Broadway to Clark, a distance of two blocks; the wagon-way clayed and graveled, and the side-walks on the west side made. The same is true of Cookman avenue, from Central up to Pilgrim pathway, one block. The opening of these avenues became a necessity, from the fact that these localities were being built upon, and the neighborhood generally improved.

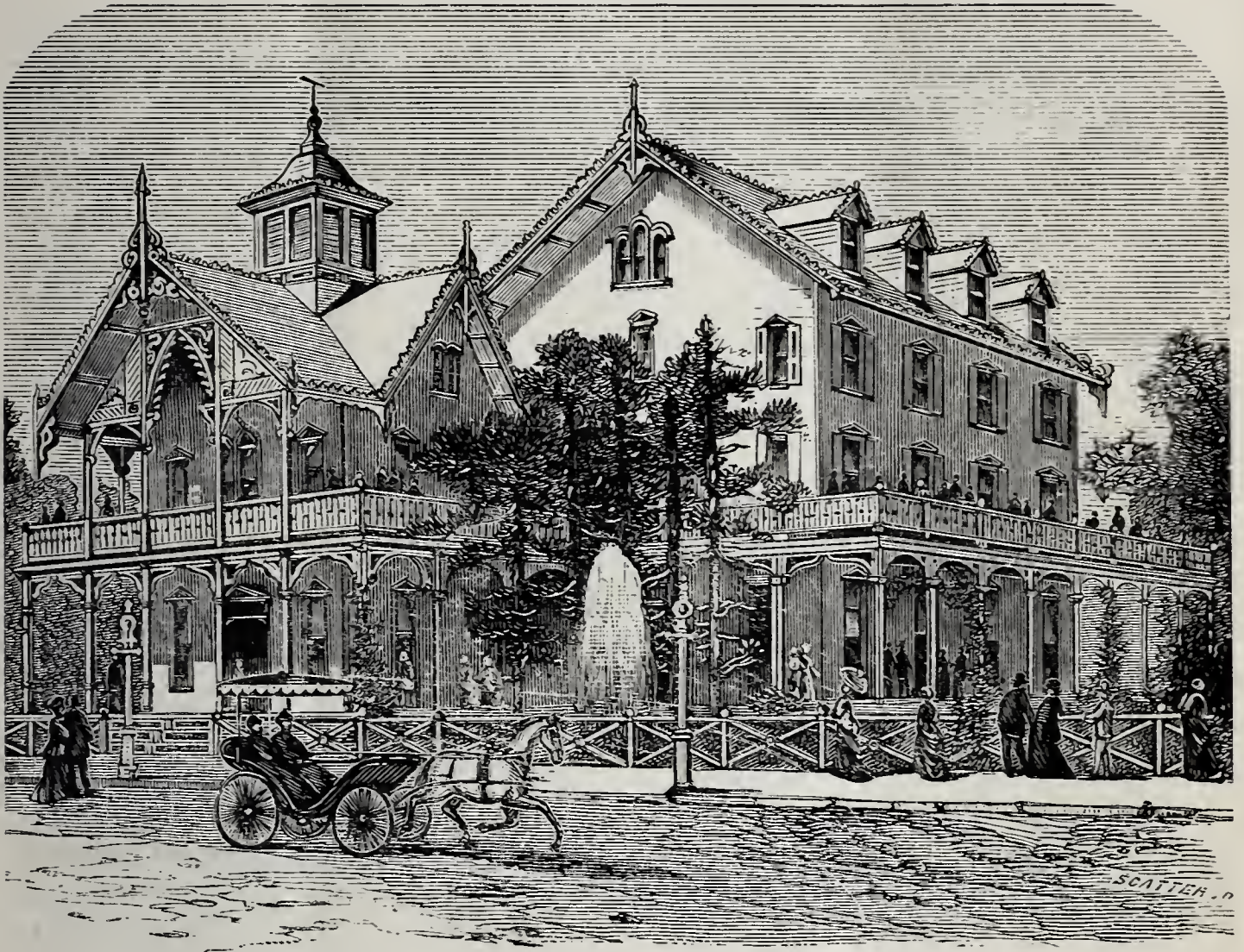
The following side-walks have been repaired: East side of Central, from Main to Wesley lake; Beach avenue, both sides, from Main to Wesley lake; Ocean avenue, west side, for the same distance; Atlantic avenue, both sides, from Beach to Ocean; Surf avenue, north side, from Beach to Ocean; McClintock street, both sides, from Beach to Ocean; Ocean pathway, north side, from Central to Ocean; Pitman avenue, south

side, from Beach to Ocean ; Webb avenue, north side, from Central to Ocean ; Pilgrim pathway, from Broadway to Cookman ; New York avenue, from Mt. Tabor to Mt. Hermon way. The whole distance of sidewalks improved, one mile and an eighth.

Avenues have been clayed and graveled as follows : Webb, from Central to Ocean ; Atlantic, from Beach to Ocean, on both sides of the Avenue park ; Surf avenue, north side of the Avenue park ; Broadway, from Beach to Ocean. In connection with this last item it is in place to say that in arranging for the new dam and gateway at the foot of Fletcher Lake, many men and teams were employed in digging and removing earth from the northern boundary of the lake, hauling it out, and leveling up the depressions between Broadway and the lake, so as to prevent the winter overflow of water from the sea, and at the same time greatly improving the condition and appearance of both lake and land. One-half mile of avenues have thus been clayed and gravelled, and 540 feet of new avenues opened. To make these improvements, much of the clay had to be brought a distance of two miles, at a cost of about 35 cents per load. The gravel is obtained upon our own grounds, but even then has to be hauled oftentimes the distance of a half mile. In the early summer Mr. Britton White granted us the privilege of taking out quite a large quantity of clay, located about a hundred yards south of the depot, on the simple condition that we filled up the cavity made by its removal. This grant we availed ourselves of, with thanks to the donor, and so saved the cost of purchase and at least three-fourths the distance of cartage. More remains for our removal, as opportunity shall afford. There is yet much labor to be done on sidewalks and avenues, which will be performed as soon as means allow.



SEA SCENE.



SHELDEN HOUSE,
Surf avenue.

IMPROVEMENTS MADE BY PRIVATE PARTIES.

It is a subject of general remark that while there is considerable depression in trade in other districts, this is not true of this locality. Activity in the building department continues and increases. At the Annual Meeting, last year, we had 417 cottages and 21 boarding-houses; this year we have 474 cottages and 27 boarding-houses, an increase of 57 cottages and 4 boarding-houses; total 501—an increase of 61 buildings over last year, and 11 cottages enlarged and improved. A number of those erected simply as private cottages, and so enumerated in the above statement, nevertheless keep boarders, many of them through the whole season, and still others during the time of camp-meeting. It is proper to say, too, that some of the finest and most costly buildings on these grounds have been erected during the year just closed. In addition to the above there are at the present time 17 buildings in course of erection, some of which are large, substantial and imposing structures. A number of others are also arranging to build during the autumn and winter.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

This remains as at our last Annual Meeting, with the exception of the six large wells or cisterns, located at suitable points in case of fire. It is a matter of continued gratitude that thus far we have had no need for more perfect fire-extinguishing arrangements. By the careless use of matches, in the hands of a little colored boy, a private tent with its contents was consumed during the summer; but no other damage was sustained. The whole subject should be carefully studied by you, and such further action had as you may deem important.

RAILROAD.

This is such an important factor, in connection with our interests, that an Annual Report, referring to the history of the year, would be incomplete without reference to its work and influence. It is a matter that has two important, and, I might add, somewhat evenly balanced sides. It is a convenience and sometimes a disturber—a convenience in view of the demand for rapid transit, and sometimes a disturber in view of the religious character of our place. Still, the railroad is a fact, and one which, when viewed in every phase of which it is capable, will doubtless in its aggregations prove a blessing. Through the courtesy of gentlemen connected with the railroad, we have reached a close approximation of the amount of travel to this place during the months of May, June, July, August and September, and is as follows:

Number of tickets sold to and from Ocean Grove and Asbury Park depot, including 48 excursions and all commuters, 710,000. Number of persons estimated as entering our grounds by private conveyance, over 25,000.

From the above it will appear that the number of persons visiting this vicinity is very large. The excursion element is one that occupies much prominence in this estimate. It should be said, also, that as a rule the persons coming on these excursions have been of the better class. As an Association, we have hitherto made no arrangement for them. It was not supposed that they would be attracted here, and, in view of the fact that we had so many meetings, it was not desired that they should be. But the whole matter is now changed, and come they will and must.

They come with their lunch-baskets by scores and hundreds, and it has required vigilant effort on the part of our assistants to prevent our auditorium from becoming a dining-saloon. When informed that they could not eat there, ladies, gentlemen and children, in the most respectful and orderly way, have simply asked, "Where shall we go?" The reply has

been, "We have no place for this purpose." This has placed us at a comparative disadvantage. The erection of some kind of a place, however simple and inexpensive, in the neighborhood of Thompson park, will not, I am sure, increase, but rather diminish the difficulty. I commend this to your attention.

HEALTH.

The declaration made in the report of last year, and the year before, concerning the excellent sanitary condition of this place, may be repeated this year. This has been true from the beginning, and, whatever may have been said to the contrary, still remains true. The utmost care is bestowed upon all parts of the ground, and especially among the tents, so that nothing offensive is allowed to remain, and the regular removal of the garbage daily keeps everything clean and pure. If all persons occupying cottages or tents will aid us in this endeavor, all causes of complaint will forever cease.

There is, of course, among so many thousands, more or less sickness—less by far than we might anticipate in view of the fact that vast numbers seem to abandon every sanitary rule and regulation that has governed them at home, and in the change of atmosphere, diet and pursuits, give themselves over to days and weeks of pleasure without restraint. As much care observed here as at home will not only prevent sickness, but promote health.

I desire to repeat, with increased earnestness, the recommendation of last year concerning the appointment of a Board of Health. In order that we may be kept informed of the actual sanitary condition from week to week, let at least three judicious persons be appointed, who shall have supervision of all matters relating to this department of the place, and to whom all physicians desiring to practice here shall submit their credentials, and to whom they shall make weekly reports of the number of their patients, and the character of their diseases; also any deaths that may occur in their practice.

I have the satisfaction of stating to you that while the number of persons visiting the Grove the past season has vastly exceeded that of any other year, yet there were only four more deaths, viz.: Francis R. Ayers, son of Joseph and Carrie Ayers, of Boston, Mass., died May 27th, aged 3 years and 4 months, of water on the brain. Tillie Crittenden, daughter of Rev. E. C. and Martha Ray, of Elizabeth, N. J., died August 2d, aged 7 months and 9 days; cause general debility. James Weir, of New York city, died suddenly of heart disease on the 9th of August, aged 70. Harry R. Frazell, son of Rev. William B. Frazell, of the Upper Iowa

Conference, died August 10th, aged 6 years and 6 months, of inflammation of the brain. Sallie Scott Cooper, daughter of Rev. S. Cooper, of Galena, Kent co., Md., died on the 18th of August, of consumption, aged 15 years and 10 months. This young lady was very ill when she came. Courtney S. Hartley, son of J. and M. E. Hartley, of Paterson, N. J., died on Saturday, September 1st, of cholera infantum, aged 1 year and 21 days. Martha Darrah, of Trenton, N. J., died September 3rd, having reached the end of her pilgrimage, aged 86. The life of this aged saint was, in the estimation of her friends, not only prolonged, but her last days greatly comforted by her residence by the sea. George Ballantyne, of Frankford, Pa., died on Wednesday, September 12th, of typhoid fever, aged 30 years. His death was superinduced, as is thought, by too great exposure at the ocean. Eight in all. Is it not a cause for devout gratitude to Almighty God, in view of all the multitudes who summer here, that there should be so few? I doubt if anywhere in the land, with numbers so vast, there can be shown a death rate so meagre.

CEMETERY.

There is, however, another subject closely allied to this, that needs attention. The above cases of death occurred among those who simply summer here. There is another class to be considered—the settled population. This whole neighborhood is rapidly filling up. There are many families who are making, and many more who will make this place and vicinity their permanent homes. Among these families there will be, as everywhere, deaths annually occurring. One of this kind, Mrs. Martha Godfrey, wife of Thompson A. Godfrey, Esq., aged 66 years, after a residence at this place of about 6 years, has just taken place. She was much attached to Ocean Grove, and did not wish to be taken from it even in death. We have buried her temporarily beside the church, to be removed when a permanent cemetery shall have been located. I most earnestly commend this subject to your attention, and think it would be well to appoint a committee authorized to act in reference to the matter.

DRAINAGE.

I now place before your minds another important subject. It is the drainage question. As our population increases, the necessity of this becomes more and more apparent. The Executive Committee has had this matter before it, and our worthy treasurer, D. H. Brown, has given it a large amount of personal attention. As a result, a thorough survey of the grounds has been made with reference to the point, and we herewith submit to you a written report upon the subject, prepared with much care, after obtaining all the light that could be had. I trust you will not dismiss it without thorough consideration.



LAKE PATHWAY.

TENT LIFE.

Large numbers of our people spend the summer in canvas walls. It is to many a pleasant change from the sealed homes they leave behind. There were 605 of these frail dwellings erected last summer—a greater number than any previous year. 321 of these tents belong to the Association; the balance are private property. Most of those belonging to private parties are erected and floored by the men in our employ, upon grounds rented of us for that purpose; but some are erected by the parties owning them, upon their own lots, and so do not come under our supervision at all. Because of the pressure, this year, for tent accommodations, we have purchased 11 new ones, of the larger sizes, and, from present indications, more will be needed for the year to come.

In connection with these tents there were in use during the season 86 portable kitchens, all we have, and still more could have been rented had we been able to supply them.

The rental of tents, kitchens, furniture, &c., increases our annual revenue to an extent that greatly aids us in carrying on our work.

The large canvas tabernacle hitherto in use has been made into flies, curtains, sails, &c., and has done good service in these respects.

ASSESSMENTS.

It is the constant aim of the Association to keep the assessments upon lots as low as possible. This year it is fixed at \$3. That all the property owners may see the exact condition of this fund and its relation to certain incidental expenses that must accrue from year to year, the benefits of which all enjoy, and for which the people pay in no other way, we insert the following facts :

Cost of lighting grounds the past year.....	\$1,000 00
Policing	1,243 00
Removing garbage	313 00
Sprinkling streets.....	200 00
Total.....	<u>\$2,756 00</u>
Received on assessments, including arrearages for last year....	\$3,695 40
Surplus this year from assessments, over the above four items of expense.....	939 40
Deficit last year, from assessments, on these items.....	1,988 00
Total deficiency for two years on these points	1,048 60

From this exhibit it will be seen that permanent improvements to avenues and side-walks cannot be made with funds derived from present rates of taxation. The highest assessment we have allowed ourselves to make, as will be seen in our printed regulations, is 7 per cent. on \$150, or \$10.50 upon each lot. This amount, if levied, would create a surplus fund over and above these incidental expenses, and enable us to reach our permanent improvements at an earlier date. But, in consideration of our people, we have hesitated, thus far, to make this increased demand. We move in this matter only as the way seems clear and the demand imperative.

POLICE.

The police regulations, with the advance in our population, become more and more responsible. We have endeavored to conduct this branch of our work with as much economy as prudence would allow. Mr. Tantum is on duty throughout the year; Major J. C. Patterson, our police justice, and also our chief of police, went on duty July 1st. A third man was added July 7th; July 23d a fourth man was put on; a fifth July 27th, and the force so remained until August 15th, when three more were added to the day service, and four to the night. These all remained until after

the Sabbath following the camp-meeting, when a reduction commenced, and continued until we are now down to where we commenced, with one. The highest number employed at one time, according to the above showing, was 12, and the total number of days' service rendered by this force, through the entire year, was 712, at a cost, as already shown, of \$1,243.70. The men thus employed have proven themselves true and faithful to their trusts. The duties performed by them are various. They must remove nuisances of all descriptions, and enforce the rules of the Association.

The chief of police reports to me as follows :

Pack pedlers arrested.....	5
“ required to leave the ground.....	51
Organ grinders required to leave the ground.....	11
“ arrested	1
Scissors grinders required to leave the grounds.....	2
Truck pedlers arrested	2
Eye-glass pedlers arrested.....	2
Disorderly persons arrested	7
Intoxicated persons removed.....	4

It will be seen from the above that we are a special object of interest to pack pedlers. The number named above as removed from the grounds is simply those whom the men reported to the chief; the actual number sent off is probably four or five times greater. These persons, apart from the annoyance of their calling at cottages and tents at all hours of the day with their wares, which as a rule our people do not want, are of a low moral type, and their presence is peculiarly objectionable, especially among our tents. Some legislation is needed by which these and all other nuisances shall not only be ejected from the grounds, but punished according to law; and but little time will be required to suppress them altogether.

DOGS.

Last year we were considerably annoyed with dogs. To relieve us in this respect, an ordinance was passed requiring all dogs running upon our grounds to be muzzled, after a given date, under penalty of arrest; and, in case they were not redeemed in 24 hours, shot. This rule has generally been observed; but in two cases of failure, after due notice to the owners, the dogs were destroyed. As a result, we have been less annoyed than usual; still, we implore our friends who come to spend the summer with us, wherever it is possible, to leave their dogs at home.

HACKS, STAGES, BAGGAGE AND MARKET-MEN.

The following is a correct statement of the number of persons under the above classification, doing business in Ocean Grove, living outside of our grounds :

Number of hacks with two horses.....	43
“ hacks with one horse	6
“ omnibuses to and from depot.....	7
“ “ from Ocean Grove to Ocean Beach.....	4
“ “ to Sunset lake.....	2
“ wagons with country produce.....	39
“ regular milk dealers.....	13
“ regular fish dealers.....	6
“ butchers.....	6
“ bakers	3
“ furniture dealers.....	2
“ grocers.....	5
“ ice-cream dealers.....	2
Total.....	138

To say nothing of the almost countless number of persons who come occasionally for purposes of traffic.

It will thus be seen, at a glance, that the number of persons doing business in Ocean Grove, who in no way whatever aid in keeping roads and other things in proper order, is large. And this number is constantly increasing. It is clearly evident, therefore, that some measures should be adopted by which these persons deriving the advantages of trade from us, should be responsible for their portion of the expense of repairs, and that stages, hacks and baggage-wagons be required to have licenses, for which they shall pay a reasonable sum, and be held to a regular scale of prices for their work. I commend these things to your careful attention.

The question of a market-stand for dealers in country produce, is one that has occupied the attention of the Executive Committee to some extent. It is not without its difficulties. In some sense it would be a relief, in other views an inconvenience. Our people are often annoyed with the great frequency of the calls of produce dealers; while to locate them all at one point, and require them to wait for customers, would be a delay to them, and also an inconvenience to those living remote from the stand or market. I leave the subject to your united and better judgment.

PARKS.

We have within our enclosure ten plots of ground left for parks, viz.: Thompson, Greenleaf, Woodlawn, Evergreen, McKendrie, Central, Memorial, Centennial, Park Square and Park Heights, to say nothing of the unnamed plots—four on Ocean Pathway, and ten others, one at the foot of each avenue as it widens out to the sea—24 in all.

Upon these parks there has been some labor bestowed, but no considerable outlays of money, for the reason that funds were in greater demand for other improvements, less ethical and more substantial. It will now be seen, however, that on several of these plots, as well as around the congregation grounds, quite a number of the smaller trees are dying. This grows out of the fact that they were in many cases merely shoots, with but little root, from stumps partly decayed. What is now needed is that strong, healthy maples and poplar trees, of as large size as are safe to transplant, be set in the places made vacant by such deaths, and this practice continued from year to year. Please give direction in this matter.

WESLEY LAKE.

This placid little sheet of water is still a great source of pleasure to our people. Its waters continue pure, and are used by tens of thousands every year. The boats upon it number between four and five hundred. Its Sabbath stillness is uniformly preserved. However many may be seen gliding over its bosom up to a late hour on Saturday night, when Sabbath comes, every boat, excepting those at the little ferry, where persons cross to and from religious services, is quietly moored along the shore until Monday morning. For the preservation of order among so many upon this lake, Asbury park appointed Uriah White and John A. Githens, and Ocean Grove appointed D. H. Brown and E. H. Stokes, who together constituted a joint Board, which during the past season has had the entire supervision of this sheet of water. The Board adopted rules and regulations to be observed, such as numbering the boats, registering the names of owners or lessees, and together appointed a policeman, to be paid jointly and equally by the two corporations, whose duties were to attend to the lake alone. The result has been an improved condition of things generally, and we think, with the experience of the past, a nearer approach to perfection may be had next year. The question of a steamboat upon the lake was one to which the Association, and the people generally on this side, were opposed. But as some advances had been made in the way of preparation, and some desire had been expressed in other quarters

to have it, the Board finally consented that the proprietors should have the privilege of trial for a period of six days. If at the expiration of that time there should be any expressed dissatisfaction, it should be removed. The privilege was never extended or withdrawn, and in this way the boat run through part of the season. I do not think it was a great success. Perhaps, in the main, with the exception of sometimes running at too high a rate of speed, not a decided evil. Its continuance, however, for another season, in view of the large number of small boats worked by children or persons not skilled in the use of oars, should not be allowed without the full consent of the joint Board, and then only under fully-prescribed and well-understood regulations.

I am still of the opinion, as last year, that boats doing business on the lake, in the way of carrying passengers, of which there are a great many, and some of them make, though in a small way, considerable money, should pay a license for the privilege—which license fee would go far towards paying the expense of a special police to keep them in order.

FLETCHER LAKE.

The foot of this lake has been improved by the erection of bath-houses, permanent dam, flood-gates and flume nearer to the sea. This adds somewhat to the length, while the excavations made for filling up the south side of Broadway widens it, so that there is a decided advance in the appearance of this sheet of water. There is also great advantage secured by the leveling up of the low grounds immediately on its northern edge. Time, labor and money will make this an interesting and beautiful part of our property.

LUMBER YARD.

The location of our lumber yard has for sometime past been objectionable, owing to its appearance in so conspicuous a place, and its proximity to so many large and valuable buildings in case of fire.

Its removal has frequently been under consideration, but the difficulty of fixing upon a suitable spot on which to locate it, has thus far caused its delay. The time seems now to have arrived when something must be done. The grounds now occupied can be used more advantageously, and the locality much improved in appearance. The place selected is the southeast corner of Thompson Park, which is the northwest corner of Bath and Central avenues, east of the ladies' cottage. The enclosure can be made tasteful in appearance, including in it the gentlemen's retirement, so that none but those who visit it will know of its existence there. Still, objections are made to that locality, as there will be to any we may select, especially as it is important to have the lumber as near the tenting

grounds as possible, in order that the cost of hauling it twice every season may be kept as low as possible. We have already commenced depositing the lumber at that place, with a view to its permanency; still, the work has not advanced so far that it cannot be changed if the Association can suggest a better spot.



ELIM COTTAGE.

This enterprise, providing a resting place for the weary ministers of Jesus, of all denominations, at a cost within their reach—under the direction of the Ladies' Union Aid Society of Ocean Grove, has closed the second year of its history. Upon an examination of the register it is found that 45 ministers, accompanied in some instances by their wives and others, 67 in all, have enjoyed its benefits during the season past. Among these we found Presbyterians, Baptists, Evangelical Lutherans, Dutch Reformed, Protestant Episcopalians, Reformed Episcopalians, Methodists, Quakers and Congregationalists—coming from New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Pennsylvania and the Indian Territory. These have been entertained at a cost varying according to ability, from \$4 to \$7 per week—sums, as will be seen, barely sufficient to meet the actual cost of maintaining the table, while the other expenses of matron, help, &c., have to be met by volunteer contributions. The ladies, in the management of this interest,

kindly ask for sympathy and assistance to enable them to enlarge and improve the accommodations, so that they may gather from all parts and from all denominations, additional numbers to enjoy the quiet of their Elim rest.



ST. PAUL'S METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

This church, located inside of Ocean Grove lines, near the entrance gate, facing the turnpike, from which is the main entrance, is designed as a place of worship for the settled population of all the adjoining neighborhoods. It has a regular pastor, (Rev. W. T. Abbott), appointed by the New Jersey Conference, a large congregation, a flourishing Sabbath-school, and a membership of 150, which raised last year, for pastor's salary, benevolent objects, and other church expenses, about \$1,700.



OCEAN GROVE LITERATURE.

As ordered by the last Annual Meeting, we published, in November last, 2,000 copies of the Seventh Annual Report, including the names of lot-owners, under the general title of "*Centennial by the Sea*," at a cost of \$190. A copy is sent to every lot-holder gratuitously, and the balance of the edition has been distributed to parties where likely to accomplish the most good.

In May, of this year, 3,000 copies of the eighth number of our *Ocean Grove Annual* was issued, giving such information as the public desire to know about our meetings, general arrangements for the year, and all that seems important to communicate to persons not acquainted with our city by the sea. These are largely circulated by persons who come here sending them to their friends at home.

The secular papers have given us a larger share of respectful attention this year than ever before. Reporters from a number of papers have been on the ground most of the summer, and, so far as I know, their comments have always been fair, and sometimes flattering. The religious press, as a rule, has done us justice, and correspondents without number, all over the land, have given us honorable mention.

The Philadelphian and Ocean Grove Record, the private enterprise of Rev. A. Wallace, still lives, and such is the value of its life that no real

friend of Ocean Grove can afford to have it die. As it is a valuable medium of communication between this place and all interested in it, its weekly visits, not only during the summer, but (if possible) still more through the winter, when most visitors are at their distant homes, would be sadly missed. Whatever you can do as an Association, or as individuals, to help this paper to a more vigorous existence, should be cheerfully done. I commend it most heartily to all.

POST OFFICE.

Letters sent this year.....	97,696
Letters sent last year.....	75,819
Increase over last year.....	<u>21,877</u>
Letters received this year.....	99,496
Letters received last year.....	80,000
Increase over last year.....	<u>19,496</u>

TELEGRAMS.

Sent this year.....	3,237
Being an increase of about one-fourth over last year.	

In connection with the postal and telegraph departments, I will state that some little improvement and re-arrangement of the building in which these offices are located have been made, affording increased facilities for the distribution of the mails; but these are only temporary, and are not supposed to do away with the constantly-growing necessity for a building larger and better adapted to the work.

INVENTORY.

The itemized inventory of property which is usually published in connection with the Annual Report, differing but little in its details from the past, is omitted this year, to make room for other matter.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

Receipts from all sources for the year ending September 1, 1877, including notes discounted.....	\$44,057 42
Expenditures.....	41,891 23
Balance in treasury, September 1, 1877.....	<u>2,166 19</u>

This balance was immediately absorbed, however, and two or three thousand dollars additional, to meet maturing notes.

ASSETS.

General inventory, independent of unsold lands, of which there are many acres.....	68,257 00
Bonds, mortgages, book accounts, &c.	13,277 33
Total	<u>81,534 33</u>

LIABILITIES

Of all descriptions.....	23,431 11
Excess of assets over liabilities.....	<u>58,103 22</u>
There have been permanent improvements added during the past year, apart from labor done on avenues and the general work upon the grounds, amounting to.....	11,348 13
Paid on bond and mortgage	<u>3,500 00</u>
Total	14,848 13

MANAGEMENT.

From the facts and figures found all through this report, it will be seen that our business is large. In the beginning it was limited, and required but few to meet its demands. The number of our helpers we have always kept as low as possible, to avoid expense. It is now evident, however, in view of the large increase of persons visiting here for business or for pleasure, that a division of labor in some departments of our work is a necessity no longer to be resisted. A committee has been appointed to revise our By-laws, who will report to this meeting, and may provide for this want.

UNINTERRUPTED BLESSINGS.

Having called attention to these things, I now desire to mention, with sentiments of gratitude to Almighty God, that we have passed another year without fatal accident. The sea is a perpetual anxiety to us. Not that it is necessarily dangerous if proper care is taken; but so many, forgetful of all cautions, plunge thoughtlessly into its billows, and venturing beyond the bounds of propriety, expose themselves to constant perils. But, notwithstanding all this, and the many thousands that annually bathe, thus far, in the eight years of our history, we have had no case of drowning. For these uninterrupted mercies we do not cease to render thanks to God. But there is another source of anxiety to us, namely, the practice, prevailing to a considerable extent, of launching the small, frail, flat-bottomed boats, designed only for the shallow waters of the lake, out upon the open sea. This is often done, too, by small boys, and generally

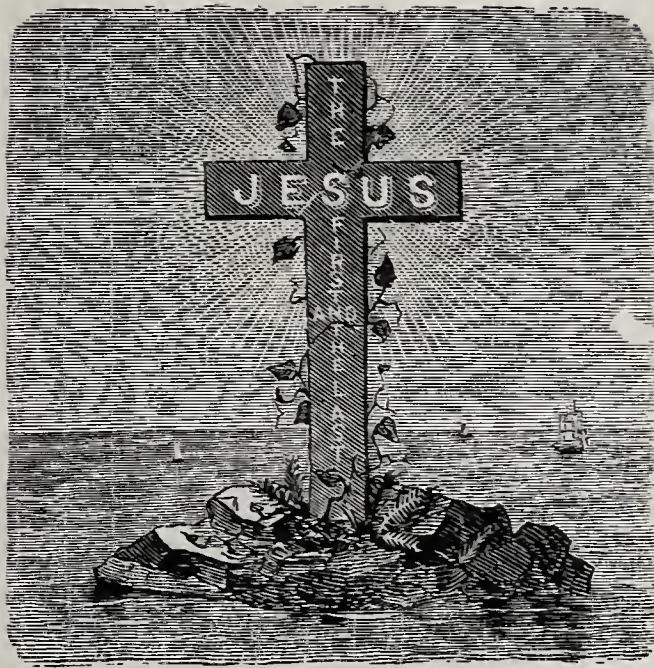
by persons without skill in managing boats upon the waters of the ocean. From this practice, sooner or later, some *fatal accident is sure to occur*. While we make constant and earnest efforts to prevent this from our grounds, boys and men, regardless of what is for the best, have but to pass a few yards, and then from other grounds, over which we have no control, do with impunity what we forbid. I state these things so that when the deaths occur, *as they surely will*, this Association may be clear of their blood.

But, while we have had no case of drowning, I regret to be called upon to record that, during the month of August, our young friend, Charles Woolston, son of the late Rev. B. F. Woolston, of the New Jersey Conference, in diving from one of the poles to which the life-lines are attached, at the foot of Fletcher lake, struck against the bottom of the sea with such force that the spinal cord was injured, and when taken from the water his body below the chest was found to be entirely paralyzed. He still remains in this sad condition, with little prospect of recovery. May the grace of God sustain him and his deeply-afflicted mother.

In reaching the conclusion of this part of my report, referring simply and singly to the material phases of our enterprise, I am glad to be able to state that at no period of our history has more interest been felt, or surer evidences of prosperity been given. The number and character of the persons visiting us, the frequency of inquiry, and the activity in the sale of lots, notwithstanding the stringency of the times, are unmistakable assurances of a large amount of attention being drawn in this direction; and the class of improvements on every hand indicate permanent success.



OSBORN COTTAGE,
Cor. Pilgrim Pathway and Lake Avenue.



RELIGIOUS LABORS.

However important the various departments of work to which your attention has just been called, I now turn with pleasure to the contemplation of the summer closed, in its relation to spiritual efforts and successes. To this no Christian can be indifferent, especially in such a place, where the first foundation-stone was laid in prayer, and where upon every stroke in the rising superstructure the Divine blessing has been so earnestly and constantly sought.

I here, and now, freely and frankly confess that as a minister of the Lord Jesus, having given myself in early life to the promotion of His glory, in the spiritual welfare of my fellow-men, and with the vows of God still upon me, that I could have no heart in this or any other place simply as a worldly enterprise. It is the possibility and prospect of giving greater success to the blessed Gospel, and of securing the salvation of men by bringing them in penitence to the foot of the Cross, and helping them to the highest possibilities of the Christian life, that gives elasticity to my steps and fervor to my soul in all my labors here. Take away this grand inspirational motive, and bind us down to this place *simply* to promote worldly pleasure or profit, and your hearts and mine would, I am sure, sink like lead into the dark waters of gloom and sadness.

At this point the world has never fully understood us. Perhaps it never will. The thought has been largely, and still to some extent may be entertained, that underneath all this religious covering there has been a motive of worldly gain.

I repeat what has been so often said, our charter forbids this, and our books and whole transactions proclaim it false. Salvation was our original thought, and salvation is still our all-absorbing aim. Everything we do is to make the channels for the Gospel wider and deeper, so that its blessed waters may flow on without obstruction. May the tides sweep stronger and deeper every year, until

“The streams the whole Creation reach,
So plenteous the store;
Enough for all, enough for each—
Enough for evermore.”

Our religious work commenced this year on Sabbath, June 17th, at 3 P. M. Meetings, both afternoon and evening, were delightful. Prayer-meetings followed during the week.

Sabbath, July 1st, the auditorium was occupied for the first time this season with a large congregation.

OCEAN GROVE SABBATH-SCHOOL.

The Ocean Grove summer Sabbath-school was organized on the afternoon of July 1st, with 387 in attendance. This number soon enlarged to such an extent that the infant department was assigned to the tabernacle, under the general direction of G. W. Evans; the adult Bible-class to Dr. Ward's tent, under Dr. Hanlon; and the main division in the auditorium, in charge of the Superintendent, J. H. Thornley, assisted by T. McPherson and J. L. Hays. Every department increased in numbers and interest until August 19th, when there were 1,670 present; after which the numbers began to lessen until September 9th, when the school closed with an attendance of 344. The whole number in attendance, during the season of eleven Sabbaths, was 11,794, being an average of nearly 1,200 every Sabbath day. The Berean International Lesson Leaves are used, so that the children spending the summer here keep abreast in their Bible-studies with those who remain at home. This part of our work, I do not hesitate to say, increases in interest and influence every year. Those having the lead of this part of the summer-work have great cause to thank God, and go forward. The pastor, officers, teachers and pupils of St. Paul's M. E. Church met with us during most of the season.

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

On Wednesday, July 4th, the one-hundred-and-first Anniversary of American Independence, was celebrated in an appropriate manner. The McKnight Rifle Company, under Captain Rainer, paraded, and exercises at the stand consisted of music, under the direction of W. Dey; Declaration of Independence, read by J. L. Hays, of Newark; and an oration by Jude McCalmont, of Franklin, Pa. The whole day passed delightfully, without fire-crackers, drunkenness or noise.

BISHOP JANES MEMORIAL TABERNACLE.

On Saturday evening, July 14th, the large new tabernacle, erected in the place of the canvas tent of other years, being completed, was formally dedicated to the worship of Almighty God, and to the memory of Bishop Edmund S. Janes. This seemed fitting, not only because we have been giving to avenues, parks, &c., the names of leading ministers after their death, but especially because the last of the many hundreds if not thousands of churches dedicated by him, was at Ocean Grove, and he preached only twice after his service here—so that it might be said he almost finished his work on these grounds. Addresses were delivered at the service by Rev. Dr. Hanlon, Rev. Jos. Knowles, and Hon. Hiram Price, of Iowa. The dedicatory service was performed by the President. At the close of the exercises, which were of a very delightful character, a basket collection was taken, to aid in our expenses—the first one ever asked on these grounds for such a purpose—amounting to \$52. These collections were continued on the Sabbath throughout the season, and once a day through the camp-meeting, with the heartiest approval of the people, who have our thanks for their generous aid in this direction.

WOMAN'S NATIONAL CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION.

This meeting commenced on the 18th of July, and continued its sessions until the 28th of the same month, under the direction of Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer, President, assisted by a number of ladies prominent in this great work, from various parts of the Union. It was a meeting of great religious interest, in which there was a vast amount of consecrated talent, and the unfoldings of a devotion to the work of lifting fallen humanity from the vice of intemperance, and bringing them into the fold of Christ, worthy of the highest commendation. The sermons of Mrs. Lathrop, of Michigan, the address of Francis Murphy, and the songs, prayers, addresses and exhortations of scores of devoted women, will never

be forgotten. The whole meeting was on the basis that there was no help for the drunkard, or success to the temperance cause, but in Christ. A large number, amounting to many hundreds, signed the pledge during the meeting, and some were converted to God.

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PRAYER-MEETING AT OCEAN GROVE.

On Sabbath, July 29th, the eighth anniversary of our first religious service at this place, (July 31st, 1869), commenced. Bishop Simpson preached a sermon of great interest to a vast congregation, from Eph. 3, 10. At night Rev. T. T. Everitt, pastor of Trinity M. E. Church, Philadelphia, gave an elaborate and finished discourse from the words, "What think ye of Christ?" One soul was converted during its delivery, and another brought under pungent conviction.

Tuesday afternoon, July 31st, was the anniversary proper. The exercises were in the interest of, and mainly conducted by the young people. Addresses were delivered by Mr. G. W. K. McPherson, of Trenton, N. J., and Rev. S. T. Horner, of Pennington, N. J. Recitations by Miss Maud Grubbs. Singing by choir and the Lake-Side Choral Band. Cornet by C. Vaughn. At the close, the beautiful vase, in the rear of the stand, facing the sea at the head of Ocean Pathway, was unveiled to the public, filled with beautiful flowers, and dedicated to the "Pioneer Women of Ocean Grove"—paid for by a private subscription, collected by our young friend, Frank Cookman, son of our late beloved Alfred Cookman.

In the evening, the anniversary prayer-meeting was held. Numerous volunteer testimonies were given, full of the highest appreciation of Ocean Grove; and so determined were the people to be heard on this subject that it was quite impossible to close the service until a period much beyond the usual time. The whole meeting was full of religious interest.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY.

The young people's assembly commenced on Thursday morning, August 2d, Rev. George A. Hall, Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association of the State of New York, being the chief conductor. This meeting continued until Wednesday evening, August 8th—a period of six days. The services were largely of an instructive character, and yet the heart was often gloriously reached, and the affections moved. Great prominence was given to the Scriptures, and God was revealed through this medium to many, as never before. Quite a number were brought to

a knowledge of their sins forgiven, and others were led to a fuller conviction of all they were to Christ. Friday evening, the exercises were conducted by Brother Thomas Harrison, a young evangelist from Boston. It was a service of such power as is rarely witnessed in the church. A number were converted, and others impressed so that they will not likely forget it through all eternity. The great regret we had concerning the whole of the six days of this meeting was, that it failed to secure the attention of the young people as generally as we desired.

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society is one of the institutions of Ocean Grove. It was organized about five years ago by Mrs. Dr. Butler, now of Mexico. Sabbath, August 12th, was its anniversary. Dr. Kynett preached a sermon of great power, in the morning, from the words of the Angel to Mary: "And of His kingdom there shall be no end," Luke i, 33; after which a basket-collection was taken, amounting to \$162.00. In the afternoon the ladies continued the meeting in Bishop Janes Memorial Tabernacle. The result of the whole was, in cash and by annual and life-memberships, \$380.00—the largest sum ever gathered by them in a single year.

EIGHTH ANNUAL CAMP-MEETING.

This is the crowning meeting of the year. To this the general church, the surrounding neighborhoods, and the summer population of the place, look with ever-increasing interest. It is the culmination of all that is expected upon these grounds. Up to this time the tide of population steadily rises. When this closes, it gradually, day after day, falls to its ordinary flow—the people disappear, the tents are taken down, and the place that was all activity and life becomes as quiet as an autumn afternoon.

At the gathering of ministers on Tuesday afternoon, August 14th, there was much interest felt and expressed for the success of the meeting, and pledges were given to stand by it to the end. The preparatory sacrament, on Tuesday evening, was largely attended, solemn and impressive.

The camp-meeting commenced on Wednesday morning, August 15th. Tuesday, August 21st, memorial services were held for Bishop Janes and our brother, Rev. John H. Stockton. Bishop Peck, who was with us through most of the meeting, rendering very efficient aid in the various services, and preaching on the Sabbath, delivered the memorial discourse. Bishop Foster and most of the Faculty of Drew Theological Seminary, were present on the occasion. The whole service was solemn and profit-

able. Friday was the quarterly meeting, when the Presiding Elder, Rev. Dr. Graw, preached. The sermons throughout were evangelical, earnest and spiritual, and the Divine blessing seemed to accompany them all. The ministers labored on the platform and in the altar with faithfulness and zeal. The meeting closed on Saturday morning, August 25th, with the administration of the Holy Sacrament, and was an occasion of great religious triumph. Many said they had never experienced such a season of blessedness and power. No wonder. The tide of holy influence that set in at the first service, on Wednesday morning, the 15th, in Bishop Janes Memorial Tabernacle, continued to rise until it broke in a tidal-wave of glory on Saturday, the 25th. So that when the bell tolled, and the camp-meeting was pronounced closed, the influence was so sweet and tender that scores and hundreds were in tears.

Sabbath, August 26th, the day following the camp-meeting, will long be remembered as a season of remarkable religious interest. Rev. G. K. Morris, of the New Jersey Conference, preached with great unction from the words, "Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you." The vast congregation was moved, melted and blest to a degree not often realized upon earth.

GOOD TEMPLARS' DAY.

Wednesday, August 29th, was Good Templars' day. The meeting was interesting, and the services of Mr. Noble, of England, in the evening, remarkable.

RECAPITULATION.

Thus ended the special meetings of the year. But it must be borne in mind, always, that the intervals between these special meetings are occupied with services of some kind, both day and night, from the commencement to the close of the season.

During this time there were 70 sermons, 79 temperance addresses, 45 other addresses, 42 prayer and experience meetings, 45 meetings for holiness, 32 young-people's meetings, 14 children's meetings, 11 Sunday-school services, 10 Bible readings, 7 surf-meetings, at one of which there were 13,000 present, by actual count; 5 early-morning meetings, 4 reformed men's meetings, 4 love-feasts, 3 sacraments, 1 dedicatory service, 1 sunrise meeting, 1 national celebration, and 1 poem-reading service, in the tabernacle—385 in all, besides songs that thrilled the heart, prayers that lifted the soul Godward, and burning words of exhortation that fell from hearts and lips baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire. Such were some of the agencies employed during this sea-side summer campaign of

1877. Who can tell the results? God alone knows, and it will take eternity to reveal them.

We were able to count between two and three hundred newly saved or wholly sanctified. We consider this, however, only a fractional part of the good accomplished. The silent and (to us) unknown influences of this summer's work are all over this land; the hearts that have been moved to holier purposes, the harmonious blending of soul with soul, the fusing of creed with creed, and the uplifting of the multitudes to a direct contact with deity, will develop in blessedness to home circles and churches, near and remote, down to the end of time.

From the beginning of the season to the close the order was excellent, our regulations generally observed, and the Sabbath sanctity, especially, kept inviolate.

I may add here, however, that the question was frequently asked during the summer, and asked with a good deal of solicitude on the part of real friends, "Can you, in view of the increasing thousands that annually press upon you, and the changed character of your population, from those simply who are Christians, to the large, and possibly preponderating numbers who are merely pleasure-seekers, maintain your original principles, and keep the religious spirit dominant?" The question, as thus stated, involves a great deal, and I have considered it carefully. My reply is "Yes!" If we, as an Association, remain true, then, with God on our side, in the future as in the past, I answer, triumphantly, and a thousand times, "Yes!" for "if God be for us, who can be against us."

As a final remark I may say that the approach of the camp-meeting was to me, this year, a source of more than ordinary solicitude—a burthen, sometimes almost too heavy to be borne. But, as the days came on, God sent helpers of the right kind, at just such times as they were most needed, and I learned again, as often before, that it is

"Not first the glad and then the sorrowful,
But first the sorrowful and then the glad—
Tears for a day, for earth of tears is full,
Then we forget that ever we were sad."

Having said these things, I again, as aforetime, commit you and this ever-enlarging and increasingly-responsible work to God, who has said, for our encouragement, "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

E. H. STOKES, *President.*

Ocean Grove, October, 1877.

BY-LAWS
OF THE
OCEAN GROVE C. M. ASSOCIATION OF THE M. E. CHURCH.

AMENDED AND APPROVED, OCTOBER, 1877.

ARTICLE I—NAME.

This corporation shall be called The Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ARTICLE II—OBJECTS.

The objects of this Association shall be to provide for the holding of Camp-Meetings for the promotion of Christian holiness, rigidly excluding all forms of speculation; and to afford to those who would spend a few days or weeks at the sea-shore, an opportunity of doing so, at moderate cost, and free from the temptations to dissipation usually attendant on fashionable watering places.

ARTICLE III—MEMBERS.

This Association shall be composed of those named in the Act of incorporation and their successors and associates when duly elected. They shall be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in good and regular standing. Any one dying, or ceasing to be a member of the M. E. Church or lot-holder in the Association for thirty days, or not being such at any Annual Meeting, or being guilty of conduct incompatible with the objects and purposes of the Association, his membership shall thereby become void, and one shall be elected in his stead by a two-thirds vote of the Association present at any regular meeting.

ARTICLE IV.—OFFICERS.

SECTION I. The Association, at its Annual Meeting, shall elect by ballot, a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and five members, who together shall constitute an Executive Committee, having full power to act during the interim of the regular meetings, and shall hold their offices for one year, and until successors are duly elected. All the vacancies in the Executive Committee occurring by death, resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by the remaining members. Four members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION II. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and Executive Committee, sign all orders on the Treasurer, and present at the Annual Meeting a full report of the operations of the year. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall perform his duties.

SECTION III. The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Association and Executive Committee, in books provided for the

purpose, give due notice of the meetings, countersign the orders on the Treasurer given by the President, and perform such other duties as may from time to time be required.

SECTION IV. The Treasurer shall have charge of all the funds of the Association, and shall disburse the same only on the order of the President, countersigned by the Secretary, after a vote in favor thereof, by said Association, or Executive Committee. He shall make a detailed written report at the Annual Meeting, or oftener if required by the Executive Committee. He shall give bond, with security, when required.

SECTION V. The Executive Committee shall have the oversight of the affairs of the Association in the interim of its regular meetings, executing the orders of the Association; but shall not purchase, sell or mortgage lands, nor contract indebtedness not authorized exceeding the sum of one thousand dollars, without the concurrence of two-thirds of the Association present at a regular or called meeting. They shall meet, if practicable, monthly; and due notice shall be given by the Secretary to each member. All bills and orders for the disbursement of money, not presented to the Association and acted on at its meetings, shall be submitted to the Committee for its action. Full minutes of the proceedings of the Committee shall be kept, and laid before the Association at its meetings.

SECTION VI. The Executive Committee may appoint from their number, or from the Association, a Devotional and such Standing or Special Committees, from time to time, as may be found necessary.

SECTION VII. A Superintendent shall be elected at the Annual or other meeting of the Association, or appointed by the Executive Committee, who shall have charge of the business interests of the Association, the care of its property, and the execution of the plans and orders of the Association or of the Executive Committee, employing all agents, sub-officers or laborers which may be found needful by the Executive Committee. He shall grant all permits for the erection of buildings, under such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Association or Executive Committee. He shall see that all leases of property belonging to the Association are made in writing, and the rent properly secured and promptly collected. He shall divide the hotels and boarding-houses into three classes, until otherwise directed by the Association or Executive Committee—the rates for the privilege of keeping the same to be fixed by said Association or Executive Committee—and shall see that permits for the same are in writing, and signed by the owners of the property on which they are situated; and shall attend to the prompt collection of the rates, keeping a record thereof. He shall, also, promptly collect all other moneys due the Association. He shall keep an account of all moneys received and disbursed by him, making full detailed reports in writing monthly, and laying all bills contracted before the Executive Committee or President, with any recommendations which he may have to offer; and his books shall at all times be open for inspection by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V—LOT-HOLDERS.

Lots may be leased for ninety-nine years, or less time, subject to renewal if none of the conditions have been violated, to parties who may be vouched

for as of good moral character and in sympathy with the objects of this Association, approved by the President in writing, subject to such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Association or Executive Committee, from time to time. All transfers of lots shall be subject to the approval of the President, written or endorsed on the lease, and shall be duly recorded on the Lot-Books of the Association. Lots shall only be used or occupied as private residences from the first day of April until the thirtieth day of October of each year, except in special cases for the general convenience, to be allowed in each case by the action of the Association or Executive Committee, under such rules and conditions as may generally or specially be prescribed. No building shall be erected upon said lots unless a permit for the same shall have been obtained from the Superintendent, the plans, including front and side elevations, of which shall first be submitted to said Superintendent, and the erection thereof shall at all times be under his supervision.

ARTICLE VI—MEETINGS.

SECTION I. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held on the second Tuesday of October in each year—and a semi-annual meeting on the second Tuesday in May. Eleven members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION II. Special meetings of the Association may be held at the call of the President, or when requested by at least three members, upon the same notice to members which is required for the Annual Meeting.

SECTION III. The Camp-Meetings held under the auspices of the Association, shall be under the supervision of the Executive Committee: *provided*, that under no circumstances shall the grounds be open to the public on the Sabbath, nor shall any privileges be granted for any thing not deemed necessary by said Committee.

SECTION IV. Any officer absenting himself from two regular meetings of the Association or Executive Committee, his place may be declared vacant unless a valid excuse be rendered, and the vacancy filled by the Executive Committee until the next annual election.

SECTION V. Any member absenting himself from two regular meetings of the Association without valid excuse given, a vacancy may be declared, and his place filled.

ARTICLE VII—ORDER OF BUSINESS.

At all the stated meetings, the order of business shall be—

1. Singing and Prayer.
2. Calling of the Roll.
3. Reading and Approving the Minutes of Previous Meetings.
4. Reports of Committees.
5. Reports from Officers.
6. Miscellaneous Business.
7. Prayer and Adjournment.

ARTICLE VIII—AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a vote of three-fourths of the Association present at any annual or semi-annual meeting.